

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions:

1. (currently amended) A short turn rotary fastener comprising a short turn prong, the prong having at least one end with a primary tip, said short turn prong being elongated and dimensioned to extend to said tip: (a) encompassing at least 1/4 turn about an axis, and (b) throughout said at least 1/4 turn reaching axially a progressively greater amount, said prong extending helically about said axis with its angular progression changing in proportion to depth.

2. (previously presented) A short turn rotary fastener as in Claim 1 where the short turn prong is dimensioned to extend 1/4 turn.

3. (previously presented) A short turn rotary fastener as in Claim 1 where the short turn prong is dimensioned to extend 1/3 turn.

4. (previously presented) A short turn rotary fastener as in Claim 1 where the short turn prong is dimensioned to extend one full turn.

5. (original) A short turn rotary fastener as in Claim 1 where the tip is self-tapping.

6. (original) A short turn rotary fastener as in Claim 1 where the tip is a chisel point.

7. (previously presented) A short turn rotary fastener as in Claim 1 where the prong helically progresses to said tip in a clockwise direction.

8. (previously presented) A short turn rotary fastener as in Claim 1 where the prong helically progresses to said tip in a counterclockwise direction.

9. (original) A short turn rotary fastener as in Claim 1 where the prong is rigid.

10. (original) A short turn rotary fastener as in Claim 1 where the prong is made of aluminum.

11. (original) A short turn rotary fastener as in Claim 1 where the prong is flexible.

12. (original) A short turn rotary fastener as in Claim 1 where the prong is made of PVC.

13. (withdrawn) A short turn rotary fastener as in Claim 1 where the prong is made of Acetyl.

14. (withdrawn) A short turn rotary fastener as in Claim 1 where the prong has a thick portion and a thin portion.

15. (currently amended) A short turn rotary fastener ~~comprising~~ according to claim

1 wherein said short turn

~~a prong,~~ the prong being further comprised of:

~~(a) a tip, said prong being elongated and dimensioned to reach axially a progressively greater amount by turning about an axis while axially progressing; and~~

~~(b) a cap opposite said primary tip, said cap having a depression overlying said prong.~~

16. (original) A short turn rotary fastener as in Claim 15 where the cap is slotted.

17. (currently amended) A ~~short turn rotary~~ fastener system according to claim 35 wherein said short turn rotary fastener further comprises ~~comprising~~ a plurality of prongs with:

(a) a first prong that engages by rotation in a clockwise direction;

(b) a second prong that engages by rotation in a counter-clockwise direction; and

(c) ~~fastenable material~~; said first prong and said second prong being adapted to commonly fasten onto said fastenable material.

18. (previously presented) A short turn rotary fastener for screwing and unscrewing into a material comprising:

(a) a plurality of prongs, each of said prongs being arranged to helically spiral about a helical axis with a circumferential extension and a proportional axial extension in order to allow screwing and unscrewing into the material; and

(b) a prong connector connecting the prongs, each of said prongs being elongated

and dimensioned to reach axially a progressively greater amount by turning about an axis while axially progressing, each of said prongs extending axially a predetermined depth from said prong connector, each of said prongs extending along most of the predetermined depth without circumferential tapering.

19. (withdrawn) A short turn rotary fastener as in Claim 18 where the prong connector is further comprised of a detent.

20. (withdrawn) A short turn rotary fastener as in Claim 18 further comprised of a stop, where the stop being comprised of:

- (a) a detent; and,
- (b) a protrusion.

21-25. (cancelled)

26. (previously presented) A fastenable material as in Claim 35 where the fastenable material is a shelf.

27. (previously presented) A fastenable material as in Claim 35 where the fastenable material is a structural piece.

28. (previously presented) A fastenable material as in Claim 35 where the fastenable material is a structural piece further comprised of a short turn rotary fastener,

the short turn rotary fastener further comprised of a prong.

29. (cancelled)

30. (cancelled)

31. (previously presented) A fastenable material as in Claim 35 where the fastenable material is a support.

32. (currently amended) A ~~fastenable material~~ fastener system according to claim 35 where the fastenable material is a support, the support comprising a prong that is elongated and dimensioned to extend by turning at least 1/4 turn about an axis while axially progressing.

33. (canceled)

34. (cancelled)

35. (currently amended) A fastener system comprised of:

(a) a short turn rotary fastener comprised of a prong having at least one tip, said prong being arranged to both turn about an axis and extend axially, said prong extending helically about said axis with its angular progression changing in proportion to depth; and

(b) a fastenable material comprised of a prong receptor having a tunnel arranged

to descend and turn in order to accommodate said prong.

36. (original) A fastener system as in Claim 35 where the prong receptor is slightly smaller than the prong thereby exerting a retaining force.

37. (withdrawn) A fastener system as in Claim 35 where the prong receptor has a constant angle sufficiently different from the constant angle of the prong such that a retaining force between the prong receptor and the prong is created when the prong is engaged by the prong receptor, both constant angles within about 25% of the maximum value of a perfect helix.

38. (original) A fastener system as in Claim 35 where the short turn rotary fastener is a cap prong.

39. (original) A fastener system as in Claim 35 where the short turn rotary fastener is a support piece.

40. (original) A fastener system as in Claim 35 where the fastenable material is a structural piece.

41. (previously presented) A fastener system as in Claim 35 where the fastenable material is a shelf.

42. (original) A fastener system as in Claim 35 where the fastenable material is a support.

43. (previously presented) A fastener system as in Claim 35 where the fastenable material is a bracket.

44. (previously presented) A fastener system as in Claim 35 where the fastenable material is a mounting strip.

45. (withdrawn) A storage system comprised of:

- (a) a plurality of shelves;
- (b) a plurality of supports;
- (c) a cap prong;
- (d) a cap prong connector.

46. (previously presented) A short turn rotary fastener according to claim 1 wherein said short turn prong has along most of its length a substantially constant thickness.

47. (previously presented) A short turn rotary fastener according to claim 46 wherein said short turn prong has along most of its length a substantially constant cross-section.

48. (canceled) A short turn rotary fastener according to claim 1 wherein said short

turn prong extends helically about said axis with its angular progression changing in proportion to depth.

49. (currently amended) A short turn rotary fastener according to claim 1 ~~48~~ wherein said short turn prong has a helical centerline.

50. (previously presented) A short turn rotary fastener according to claim 1 wherein said short turn prong is elongated and has an opposite pair of prong ends, said primary tip being located at one of said prong ends, the other one of the prong ends having a secondary tip.

51. (previously presented) A fastener system according to claim 35 wherein said prong has along most of its length a substantially constant thickness.

52. (previously presented) A fastener system according to claim 51 wherein said prong has along most of its length a substantially constant cross-section.

53. (canceled) A fastener system according to claim 35 wherein said prong extends helically about said axis with its angular progression changing in proportion to depth.

54. (currently amended) A fastener system according to claim 35 ~~53~~ wherein said prong has a helical centerline.



55. (previously presented) A fastener system according to claim 35 wherein said at least one tip comprises a pair of tips at opposite ends of said prong, said prong being elongated.